

Governor Jim Doyle
Maj. Gen. Albert Wilkening
The Adjutant General
Johnnie L. Smith
Administrator

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WEM Digest

Issues and Events for Wisconsin's Emergency Management Community

State Citizen Corps Council kicks off first meeting

By Noah Abbott
Office of Justice Assistance

Members of the State of Wisconsin's Citizen Corps Council held their first meeting in January in Madison to begin discussing volunteerism, preparedness, and prevention throughout the state as they relate to homeland security.

The 19-member council was appointed by Governor Doyle and is chaired by Racine County Executive William McReynolds. David Steingraber, Executive Director of the Office of Justice Assistance provided introductions before passing the stage to Major General Al Wilkening.

Wilkening serves as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor and chairs the Governor's Council on Homeland Security. His remarks set the mission of the Citizen Corps Council in context as the front line of defense against terrorist threats, natural disasters, and other large emergencies.



The Governor's Homeland Security Advisor Major General Al Wilkening presented an overview of homeland security measures in Wisconsin during the first meeting of the State of Wisconsin Citizen Corps Council.

Jim Opoka and Matt Bower from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security briefed the Council about the history of Citizen Corps programs nationwide, the role of such programs in aiding Homeland

Security efforts, and how the state programs are related to the federal government. In addition, Opoka

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Homeland security topics to highlight state conference

Topics ranging from the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) to disaster preparedness will be presented at the 38th Annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

The annual state conference will be held April 5 - 6, 2005 at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, WI. An estimated 600 people representing law enforcement, fire,

EMS, emergency management and other response agencies are scheduled to attend the conference.

Communications interoperability, the use of GIS in emergency management and first response, homeland security grants, private sector infrastructure security, the use of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), and an overview of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and

the National Response Plan (NRP) are just some of the seminars and workshops planned.

This is one of the oldest and largest state emergency management conferences in the nation. Registration information for the 2005 event is available on page 5 of the WEM Digest or on the WEM website located at <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov>.

Understanding NIMS requirements for responders

*By Jerry Habert
WEM Training Section Supervisor*

"One mission, one team, one fight" was the message delivered by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Tom Ridge in March 2004 when he announced approval of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and emergencies.

To encourage state and local participation, a letter was sent to all governors last fall outlining requirements to be completed in

FY2005 in order to be eligible for future homeland security grants. There are five requirements that must be completed. They include:

- Completion of the DHS Independent Study Course entitled, "IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS) an Introduction"
- Formally recognizing NIMS and adopting NIMS principles through a county/municipal order/proclamation
- Establishing a NIMS baseline by determining what requirements have been met
- Developing a strategy for implementation of NIMS

- Use of the Incident Command System (ICS)

Many questions have surfaced concerning the type of ICS training that will be acceptable with NIMS. The NIMS Integration Center (NIC) has indicated that while they are in the process of developing a standard curriculum, all ICS courses that were taught previously using the National Wildfire Coordinating Group, the National Fire Academy, or the Emergency Management Institute curriculum is accepted. Therefore, responders will not need to be retrained in ICS.

In addition, DHS has not set requirements for the specific number of personnel per agency that must be trained in ICS. However, agencies that have not adopted ICS may wish to provide staff some ICS training. Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) offers a variety of ICS training at no cost. Training opportunities are listed on the WEM website at <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov>

NIMS Continued on Page 9



New Command Center

Dane County recently received its new emergency command center. The 40-foot unit has two slide out sections — one for the command area and the other for communications. A special light bar was developed that can alternate between red/blue and red/white allowing the unit to be mobilized by fire or law enforcement. It also has a 42-foot telescoping mast with camera to provide a live feed to the command post.

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Faulty defibrillators replaced thanks to grant

By Paul Knoff
Clark County LEPC

In November, Access Cardio Systems Inc. recalled thousands of the potentially life-saving defibrillators that they said could malfunction. They also closed their doors offering no support to people that had purchased them. The Granton First Responders was one of those groups.

Danielle Boushon of the Granton First Responders said they had eight of the \$1,600 devices – but thankfully, only three of them had the affected serial numbers.

The Granton First Responders are making strides to replace some faulty equipment. When news of the recall hit,

Boushon says it was very frustrating because of all the fundraising and work the group – and the entire community – had put into purchasing the devices, but things are looking up.

"We have been very fortunate. We have five of the LifePak 500 defibrillators that we've been able to purchase since November," Boushon said, explaining five of the AccessCardio Systems devices remain in service. Two of the defibrillators were purchased by Clark County Emergency Management using 2004 Homeland Security Grant money.

All told, now there are 10 defibrillators in service in the Granton



Clark County Emergency Management purchased over \$5,000 worth of emergency medical equipment for Granton Area First Responders with Homeland Security Grant money. Included in the purchase were two LifePak Defibrillators, which provide a lifesaving jolt of electricity to restart a heart in cardiac arrest.

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Lord-Kouraiichi

area. Many are strategically placed with

responders in the community.

Disaster preparedness program for Wisconsin teens

Mary Jean Erschen
Wisconsin READY Initiative

To provide Wisconsin youth with the skills to help prevent and respond to disasters and emergencies at their schools and communities is the focus of a new program called Responding to Emergencies and Disasters with Youth (READY) Initiative.

Program organizers say the READY Initiative, which will be operational in July of 2005, utilizes and expands upon the current anti-drug and leadership programs that are available to youth such as the DARE program and the Wisconsin National Guard Counter Drug Program.

The first phase of the Ready Initiative will involve the development and revision of some of the curriculum for the National Guard program. The Counter Drug Program focuses on encouraging youth to make healthy decisions and promote drug/alcohol prevention. The expansion will include discussions on CPR and first aid, injury prevention, school safety, crime prevention and emergency preparedness.

Teens participating in the READY Initiative will also participate in activities related to volunteerism, leadership, advocacy, and youth development. They will also gain insight on how to establish citizen

corps councils and partnerships within their schools and communities

The second phase of the initiative includes a five-day camp experience for teens. It's designed to increase the number of school-aged youth who are prepared and ready to respond in emergency health situations to help make schools and communities safer. Law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS providers and emergency healthcare professionals will serve as camp instructors.

For more information, contact Mary Jean Erschen at 608-242-7869 or erschen.mary@uwlax.edu

WEMA has full schedule in 2005

By Cullen Peltier
WEMA President

As 2004 wound down, I finally felt like Wisconsin Emergency Management Association (WEMA) was making some progress. I was hoping that we would be able to carry that momentum into 2005. As it turns out, we are exceeding my expectations.

Our first board meeting in 2005 turned out to be one of the most successful meetings that I have presided over as president of WEMA. We approved our new Southwest Regional Representative (welcome Tanna McKeon). We created an Office of Justice Assistance/WEMA interface committee (thank you Steve Braun, John Elliot, Ben Schliesman, and Mark Fritsche for agreeing to participate).

We also reviewed and approved the new Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)/WEMA Certification Program and we are awaiting the final approval from WEM management. We had an active discussion about updating our by-laws. Finally, we approved the appointment of Linda Kollmann as WEMA's representative on the State Hazard Mitigation Team. We are very pleased to have a representative on this committee.

In early February, I attended the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Response and Recovery Summit at FEMA Region V in Chicago. I had the opportunity to interact with our state and federal partners and voice some of our concerns on issues ranging from hazard mitigation to Volunteers Active in Disasters (VOAD).

There was a representative from each of the region's state emergency management associations. We shared some "best practices" and we are looking for a way to have a forum on a monthly basis.

WEMA also has a number of activities on the horizon that we are excited about. We look forward to working with our legislators to ensure that the \$10 million decrease in Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) proposed in the President's budget does not go through. We already had some initial discussion with Senator Feingold's Office. The Senator was a supporter of EMPG last year.

WEMA will also have a vendor booth at the Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland



Security. Please stop by and visit, or fill out a membership application if you have not already done so.

Finally, I would encourage you to contact our committee representatives if you have any issues concerning homeland security grants, mitigation, or legislation. You are also invited to attend WEMA board meetings. Information and agendas are posted on the WEMA website at www.wema.us. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Governor's Conference in April.



Testing Emergency Plans

Local and state officials gathered at the Sharon Fire Department for a tabletop exercise. This exercise allowed responders to use their Emergency Operations Plan in a mock disaster. The group was given an incident involving the Union Pacific Railroad and hazardous materials. After three hours of working through the disaster, the exercise was considered a success. Participants said they will now be better prepared in the event of an actual incident.

Photo by Kevin Williams

The 38th Annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security



April 5-6, 2005
The Grand Geneva Resort
Lake Geneva, WI

The 38th Annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management & Homeland Security

**April 5 & 6, 2005
The Grand Geneva Resort
Lake Geneva, WI**

The registration fee for the 2005 Conference is \$150.00. You may pre-register by completing the attached registration form and returning it to Wisconsin Emergency Management no later than March 28, 2005. The registration fee covers the cost of the conference, the noon luncheon and banquet on April 5. Please be advised that you must pay the registration fee in full, regardless whether you plan to attend all or part of either day's activities. Registration refunds will be approved only upon receipt of cancellation notice by March 28, 2005. As in the past, no exceptions will be made to this rule. All refund checks will be mailed after April 6. We want to remind you to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The Grand Geneva Resort (262-248-8811 or 1-800-558-3417) will hold rooms for conferees only until March 8, 2005.

TOPICAL SEMINARS Tuesday April 5, 2005

Please choose two of Tuesday's topical seminars to attend and circle your choices on the registration form located on Page 8.

- A. CITIZEN CORPS - A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP** - Presenters will give an overview of the new Wisconsin Citizen Corps Council and how communities can establish their own local program.
- B. PUBLIC TELEVISION'S DATACASTING SERVICE AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** - The transition to digital broadcasting has created new opportunities for public television stations and the delivery of educational and public safety information.
- C. 2005 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING AND NEW INITIATIVES OF THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE** - This will be a presentation on the 2005 Homeland Security funding programs and new initiatives.
- D. PUBLIC/PRIVATE COLLABORATION – PARTNERING FOR SECURITY** - This is an overview of the Southeast Wisconsin Homeland Security Partnership which was created to enhance preparedness and response to all types of hazards.
- E. MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM (MABAS) – WILL IT WORK FOR YOU?** - The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) is a program that coordinates the effective and efficient provision of routine fire and emergency medical mutual aid during emergencies, natural disasters, and man-made catastrophes.
- F. ENHANCING RESOURCES THROUGH VOAD – VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTERS** - Looking for a way to coordinate your local volunteer resources? Establishing a local VOAD can assist you by organizing your local volunteer agencies through all phases of a disaster.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Tuesday April 5, 2005

*Please choose one Tuesday afternoon breakout session to attend
and circle your choice on the registration form on Page 8.*

- G. **GIS – STATE AND LOCAL INITIATIVES IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE** - This session will focus on Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and how GIS is becoming integrated with all aspects of emergency management.
- H. **“BIOTERRORISM RESPONSE – A NIMS COMPLIANT PLANNING APPROACH”** - Eau Claire County has produced an inter-departmental planning document to deal with a potential response to a bioterrorism event. It is a model that any community can adapt and use in their region to prepare for a potential bioterrorism incident.
- J. **COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY – WHERE ARE WE NOW?** - After a year of studying and discussing interoperability in Wisconsin, what have we learned and where do we need to go.
- K. **REVIEW OF MAJOR WEATHER EVENTS IN 2004 AND LONG-RANGE OUTLOOK FOR SPRING AND SUMMER 2005 – USING THE NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR NON-WEATHER RELATED EMERGENCY MESSAGES** - Representatives from the National Weather Service will provide a brief review of the major 2004 weather events and a general long-range outlook for spring and summer. In addition, they will discuss how emergency responders can request the NWS to broadcast a non-weather related emergency message on the NOAA Weather Radio

Other Conference Highlights

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Noon Luncheon — *Governor Doyle (invited)*

Evening Banquet Guest Speaker— **“Expanding the Power of Your Mind”** - *Robert Ian*

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Morning General Sessions

8:30 a.m. - **“The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Plan (NRP)”**

9:30 a.m. - **“You Prepare Others, But Do You Prepare Your Family?”** – *Norris Beren, Executive Director, Emergency Preparedness Educational Institute*

10:45 a.m. - **“A New Era: Inclusive Comprehensive Emergency Management”** – *Edward Gabriel, Deputy Commissioner of Preparedness, New York City Office of Emergency Management*

38th ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

April 5th and 6th, 2005

Please print clearly

				TUESDAY APRIL 5	
				Topical Seminars (circle 2)	Breakout Sessions (circle 1)
#1	ATTENDEE NAME	AGENCY	TITLE	A B C D E F	G H J K
	ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP	CONTACT PHONE #	COUNTY		
#2	ATTENDEE NAME	AGENCY	TITLE	A B C D E F	G H J K
	ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP	CONTACT PHONE #	COUNTY		
#3	ATTENDEE NAME	AGENCY	TITLE	A B C D E F	G H J K
	ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP	CONTACT PHONE #	COUNTY		

☐ Note: Mail in registrations must be received by March 28, 2005.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$150.00 per person

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Department of Military Affairs
Division of Emergency Management
Post Office Box 7865
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7865

FOR WEM OFFICE USE ONLY			
CHECK #	OTHER		
INVOICE	YES	NO	
	Presenter	Vendor	

WE CANNOT MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR CONFEREES!

Power outage left Adams County residents in the cold

*By Jane Grabarski
Adams County Emergency Management
Deputy Director*

In the early morning hours of December 20, 2004, the northern one-third of Adams County was in the dark after an electrical substation that serves more than 5100 customers went down. Officials were told that the substation could be down for a few days – leaving residents without power during winter weather.

Utility crews from Adams Columbia Electric Company (ACEC), Alliant Power Company and American Transmission, who co-own and operate the substation, worked quickly to restore some power. However, the emergency repairs still left more than 2000 customers without electricity. In addition, local emergency officials were told the power outage could last for two days until equipment could be repaired/replaced.

The weather forecast called for temperatures to be below

freezing, which prompted the Adams County Board Chair to declare a State of Emergency. This allowed local emergency responders to mobilize resources and staff. Adams County Sheriff's Department arranged volunteer transport for those shut-ins in need. The fire departments from Rome and Big Flats also went door-to-door contacting residents who may have needed additional assistance.

Adams County Emergency Management worked with the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army to open an emergency shelter and provide meals. Rainbow Casino provided a large donation of food for the shelter. Officials say approximately 50 people spent time at the shelter to warm up and have a meal. About ten spent the night at the emergency shelter.

An emergency call-in line was also established by the Adams County Public Health

Department to help inform residents where warm shelter, food and water could be located, veterinary offices that could provide kennel services for pets, and offered tips on how to minimize frozen water pipes.

Meanwhile, utility crews had problems getting power restored. The replacement portable substation failed less than a minute of operation. The next available substation had to be shipped from Fond du Lac.

During the wait, utility crews undid eight hours of their temporary wiring and readied for the next rewiring. Fortunately, the new equipment worked and by Wednesday, power was fully restored.

Adams County Emergency Management was grateful for the assistance from so many of our county agencies and community volunteers and agencies to minimize the discomfort and inconvenience of our residents.

NIMS from page 2

Some of the training courses can be delivered locally. In addition for some emergency response departments, the cost of overtime or backfilling positions while staff are attending ICS training may be reimbursable. For further information on reimbursement, go to the Office of Justice Assistance website at <http://oja.state.wi.us>

Information on the implementation of NIMS is also explained in WEM's Information & Guidance Memos which are

also available on the WEM website. WEM will continue to disseminate information on NIMS as it becomes available. NIMS information is also available at www.fema.gov/nims.

Agencies needing other assistance in planning, conducting, or evaluating training and exercises should contact their county emergency management director. For further NIMS and training question, you can also contact Jerry Haberl at 608-242-3213 or e-mail at jerry.haberl@dma.state.wi.us.

Upcoming Events

Wisconsin's Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week

*April 18-22, 2005
April 21, 2005—Drill*

Wisconsin NOAA Weather Radio Awareness Day

May 18, 2005

Wisconsin Heat Awareness Day

June 16, 2005

National Lightning Safety Awareness Week

June 19-25, 2005

Plans for Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week

Governor Doyle has proclaimed the week of April 18-22, 2005 as Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin. It is an opportunity for communities, schools, businesses and citizens to take time to review and update emergency plans about what to do when severe weather strikes.

Last year, there were 36 reported tornadoes in Wisconsin, including 17 that hit on June 23, 2004. One person was killed in Green Lake County when an F3 tornado hit his home. The June 23, 2004 tornado outbreak is ranked the 4th all-time busiest tornado day in Wisconsin. Wisconsin averages 21 tornadoes a year.

As part of Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week, a statewide tornado drill is planned for Thursday, April 21, 2005. The drill will be an ideal opportunity to practice safety procedures in the event of actual severe weather. The mock tornado warnings will be issued by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) and will be staggered from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. The actual times will be posted on the Wisconsin Emergency Management website at <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov>. If actual severe weather occurs anywhere in the state on April 21, the tornado drill will be postponed to Friday, April 22, 2005.



May 23, 2004 Dane County

Wisconsin Tornadoes 1982-2004

Compiled by the National Weather Service



Watches & Warnings

TORNADO WATCH: Conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms.

TORNADO WARNING: A tornado is imminent (based on weather radar information) or has been sighted by spotters. If a tornado warning is issued for your area - move to your pre-designated place of safety. SEEK SHELTER IMMEDIATELY!

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH: Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms with damaging straight-line (downburst) winds and/or large hail.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING: Severe thunderstorms with damaging straight-line winds and/or large hail are imminent or are occurring.

EPCRA electronic submissions make filing easy

*By Dawn Foss
EPCRA Compliance Officer*

To help speed up the process for filing forms and making payments associated with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Program, Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) continues to improve electronic submissions.

Last year, WEM began accepting Wisconsin Tier Two forms electronically. More than 200 were submitted by this new feature and this year we have already surpassed that amount and are still receiving them.

For 2005, staff have made improvements with the electronic form submission. In addition, electronic payment feature has been added and is completed through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Although hard copy submission is still an option, we hope that you will find the new electronic version much easier to use.

New facilities will still need to submit the hard copy as they have in the past. Then every year thereafter a preprinted Tier Two will be mailed, which will include the User ID and

password. Then the facility may choose to submit electronically or by hard copy.

To submit electronically, or to find other EPCRA information and resources, go to <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov> and click on the "Hazardous Materials & EPCRA" Quick Link. If you have questions, you may contact the EPCRA help number at 608-242-3221.

Again, we thank all of you for your patience during this transition period.

Regional News

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Racine County Emergency Management Director David Maack** who has been hospitalized recently.

Kristine Leverich was named **Emergency Management Director for Marquette County**.

Vilas County has a new director. **Jim Galloway** is serving as the **Vilas County Emergency Management Director**.

Mike Tietz has been named acting **Emergency Management Director of Dunn County**.

Jeffery Hein is the new **Price County Emergency Management Director**.

Charlie Zinsmaster was recently named **Iron County Emergency Management Director**.

Lori Schlafer has resigned as **Richland County Emergency Management Director**.

Buffalo County Emergency Management Director Steve Schiffli has been deployed to Iraq for the next two years with the Minnesota Air National Guard. Stay safe! **John Kriesel** has been named acting director.



Kenosha County will kick off its Citizen Corps program on March 9 at the Kenosha County Center in Bristol. Citizen Corps encourages citizens to become better prepared for all types of emergencies and disasters.



Congratulations!

Wisconsin Emergency Management REP Planner Bob Host and Dave Janda with Dane County Emergency Management were recently presented a certificate for completing the Level 3 Emergency Manager Certification Program. In the photo on the left, Host is congratulated by WEM Administrator Johnnie Smith. In the photo on the right, Janda received his award from WEM Southwest Regional Director Larry Reed.



Storm Ready

The Village of Dousman was designated as a StormReady community by the National Weather Service on January 25, 2005. StormReady is a national community preparedness program that uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle all types of severe weather. Dousman is the ninth community in Wisconsin to achieve this designation. Photo by the National Weather Service

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Citizen Corps from Page 1

provided an overview of some of the Citizen Corps affiliate programs such as Volunteers in Police Service, Neighborhood Watch, Medical Reserve Corps, and the Fire Reserve Corps. Many Wisconsin communities already offer some of these programs.

In the next few months, council members will participate in various subcommittees to help determine the best direction for the state in promoting terrorism prevention and readiness and to help build safer communities across Wisconsin.